homeownership and community development, and for other purposes.

S. 888

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 888, a bill to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act, and for other purposes.

S. 896

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 896, a bill to establish a public education and awareness program relating to emergency contraception.

S. 905

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 905, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a broadband Internet access tax credit.

S. 944

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 944, a bill to enhance national security, environmental quality, and economic stability by increasing the production of clean, domestically produced renewable energy as a fuel source for the national electric system.

S. 950

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 950, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 982

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 982, a bill to halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil, and hold Syria accountable for its role in the Middle East, and for other purposes.

S. 1001

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1001, a bill to make the protection of women and children who are affected by a complex humanitarian emergency a priority of the United States Government, and for other purposes.

S. 1009

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1009, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to increase assistance to foreign countries seriously affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and for other purposes.

S. 1023

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1023, a bill to increase the annual salaries of justices and judges of the United States.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1026, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phase out the taxation of social security benefits.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1028, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

S. 1040

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were withdrawn as cosponsors of S. 1040, a bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity for families by reducing the power and reach of the Federal establishment.

S. 1046

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1046, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to preserve localism, to foster and promote the diversity of television programming, to foster and promote competition, and to prevent excessive concentration of ownership of the nation's television broadcast stations.

S. RES. 133

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 133, a resolution condemning bigotry and violence against Arab Americans, Muslim Americans, South-Asian Americans, and Sikh Americans.

S. RES. 135

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 135, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should provide adequate funding to protect the integrity of the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site.

AMENDMENT NO. 539

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 539 proposed to S. 14, a bill to enhance the energy security of the United States, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1056. A bill to establish the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes; to be the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill, with Senators CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, EDWARD M. KENNEDY, and JOHN F. KERRY, to establish the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

This new heritage area would encompass the part of the Housatonic River watershed that extends 60 miles from Lanesboro, MA to Kent, CT, and includes 29 towns in Connecticut and Massachusetts, five National Historic Landmarks, and four National Natural Landmarks. The upper Housatonic Valley is a unique cultural and geographical region. The region has made significant national contributions through literary, artistic, musical, and architectural achievements; post-Industrial Age environmental conservation and beautification efforts; and service as the backdrop for important Revolutionary War era events and the cradle of the iron, paper, and electrical industries and the Civil Rights Movement. National heritage area designation will encourage preservation and interpretation of important historical and cultural themes and sites.

The designation will enhance and foster public-private partnerships to educate residents and visitors about the region; improve the area's economy through business investment, job expansion, and tourism; and protect the area's natural and cultural heritage. In introducing this bill, we recognize the widespread support for the national heritage area designation within Connecticut and Massachusetts, and, in particular, the large membership and extensive activities of the non-profit organization Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, Inc.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1056

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The upper Housatonic Valley, encompassing 29 towns in the hilly terrain of western Massachusetts and northwestern Connecticut, is a singular geographical and cultural region that has made significant national contributions through its literary, artistic, musical, and architectural achievements, its iron, paper, and electrical equipment industries, and its scenic beautification and environmental conservation efforts.

(2) The upper Housatonic Valley has 139 properties and historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places including—

(A) five National Historic Landmarks—

(i) Edith Wharton's home, The Mount, Lenox, Massachusetts;

(ii) Herman Melville's home, Arrowhead, Pittsfield, Massachusetts;

(iii) W.E.B. DuBois' Boyhood Homesite, Great Barrington, Massachusetts;

(iv) Mission House, Stockbridge, Massachusetts; and

(v) Crane and Company Old Stone Mill Rag Room, Dalton, Massachusetts; and

(B) four National Natural Landmarks—

(i) Bartholomew's Cobble, Sheffield, Massachusetts, and Salisbury, Connecticut;

(ii) Beckley Bog, Norfolk, Connecticut;

(iii) Bingham Bog, Salisbury, Connecticut; and

(iv) Cathedral Pines, Cornwall, Connecticut.

(3) Writers, artists, musicians, and vacationers have visited the region for more than 150 years to enjoy its scenic wonders, making it one of the country's leading cultural resorts.

(4) The upper Housatonic Valley has made significant national cultural contributions through such writers as Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edith Wharton, and W.E.B. DuBois, artists Daniel Chester French and Norman Rockwell, and the performing arts centers of Tanglewood, Music Mountain, Norfolk (Connecticut) Chamber Music Festival, Jacob's Pillow, and Shakespeare & Company.

(5) The upper Housatonic Valley is noted for its pioneering achievements in the iron, paper, and electrical generation industries and has cultural resources to interpret those industries.

(6) The region became a national leader in scenic beautification and environmental conservation efforts following the era of industrialization and deforestation and maintains a fabric of significant conservation areas including the meandering Housatonic River.

(7) Important historical events related to the American Revolution, Shays' Rebellion, and early civil rights took place in the upper Housatonic Valley.

(8) The region had an American Indian presence going back 10,000 years and Mohicans had a formative role in contact with Europeans during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

(9) The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area has been proposed in order to heighten appreciation of the region, preserve its natural and historical resources, and improve the quality of life and economy of the area.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as follows:

(1) To establish the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

(2) To implement the national heritage area alternative as described in the document entitled ''Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Feasibility Study, 2003''.

(3) To provide a management framework to foster a close working relationship with all levels of government, the private sector, and the local communities in the upper Housatonic Valley region to conserve the region's heritage while continuing to pursue compatible economic opportunities.

(4) To assist communities, organizations, and citizens in the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in identifying, preserving, interpreting, and developing the historical, cultural, scenic, and natural resources of the region for the educational and inspirational benefit of current and future generations.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term ''Heritage Area'' means the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, established in section 4.

(2) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term ''Management Entity'' means the management entity for the Heritage Area designated by section 4(d).

(3) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term ''Management Plan'' means the management plan for the Heritage Area specified in section 6.

(4) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Boundary Map Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area'', numbered P17/80,000, and dated February 2003.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SEC. 4. UPPER HOUSATONIC VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area.

(b) BOUNDARIES.—The Heritage Area shall be comprised of—

(1) part of the Housatonic River's watershed, which extends 60 miles from Lanesboro, Massachusetts to Kent, Connecticut;

(2) the towns of Canaan, Colebrook, Cornwall, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, and Warren in Connecticut;

(3) the towns of Alford, Becket, Dalton, Egremont, Great Barrington, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lanesboro, Lee, Lenox, Monterey, Mount Washington, New Marlboro, Pittsfield, Richmond, Sheffield, Stockbridge, Tyringham, Washington, and West Stockbridge in Massachusetts; and

(4) the land and water within the boundaries of the Heritage Area, as depicted on the map.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

(d) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, Inc. shall be the management entity for the Heritage Area.

SEC. 5. AUTHORITIES, PROHIBITIONS AND DUTIES OF THE MANAGEMENT ENTITY.

(a) DUTIES OF THE MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—To further the purposes of the Heritage Area, the management entity shall—

(1) prepare and submit a management plan for the Heritage Area to the Secretary in accordance with section 6;

(2) assist units of local government, regional planning organizations, and nonprofit organizations in implementing the approved management plan by—

(A) carrying out programs and projects that recognize, protect and enhance important resource values within the Heritage Area;

(B) establishing and maintaining interpretive exhibits and programs within the Heritage Area;

(C) developing recreational and educational opportunities in the Heritage Area;

(D) increasing public awareness of and appreciation for natural, historical, scenic, and cultural resources of the Heritage Area;

(E) protecting and restoring historic sites and buildings in the Heritage Area that are consistent with heritage area themes;

(F) ensuring that clear, consistent, and appropriate signs identifying points of public access and sites of interest are posted throughout the Heritage Area; and

(G) promoting a wide range of partnerships among governments, organizations and individuals to further the purposes of the Heritage Area;

(3) consider the interests of diverse units of government, businesses, organizations and individuals in the Heritage Area in the preparation and implementation of the management plan;

(4) conduct meetings open to the public at least semi-annually regarding the development and implementation of the management plan;

(5) submit an annual report to the Secretary for any fiscal year in which the management entity receives Federal funds under this Act, setting forth its accomplishments, expenses, and income, including grants to any other entities during the year for which the report is made;

(6) make available for audit for any fiscal year in which it receives Federal funds under this Act, all information pertaining to the expenditure of such funds and any matching funds, and require in all agreements authorizing expenditures of Federal funds by other organizations, that the receiving organizations make available for such audit all records and other information pertaining to the expenditure of such funds; and

(7) encourage by appropriate means economic viability that is consistent with the purposes of the Heritage Area.

(b) AUTHORITIES.—The management entity may, for the purposes of preparing and implementing the management plan for the Heritage Area, use Federal funds made available through this Act to—

(1) make grants to the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, their political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations and other persons;

(2) enter into cooperative agreements with or provide technical assistance to the State of Connecticut and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, their political jurisdictions, nonprofit organizations, and other interested parties;

(3) hire and compensate staff, which shall include individuals with expertise in natural, cultural, and historical resources protection, and heritage programming;

(4) obtain money or services from any source including any that are provided under any other Federal law or program;

(5) contract for goods or services; and

(6) undertake to be a catalyst for any other activity that furthers the purposes of the Heritage Area and is consistent with the approved management plan.

(c) PROHIBITIONS ON THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY.—The management entity may not use Federal funds received under this Act to acquire real property, but may use any other source of funding, including other Federal funding outside this authority, intended for the acquisition of real property.

SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The management plan for the Heritage Area shall—

(1) include comprehensive policies, strategies and recommendations for conservation,

funding, management and development of the Heritage Area;

(2) take into consideration existing State, county, and local plans in the development of the management plan and its implementation;

(3) include a description of actions that governments, private organizations, and individuals have agreed to take to protect the natural, historical and cultural resources of the Heritage Area;

(4) specify the existing and potential sources of funding to protect, manage, and develop the Heritage Area in the first 5 years of implementation;

(5) include an inventory of the natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic, and recreational resources of the Heritage Area related to the themes of the Heritage Area that should be preserved, restored, managed, developed, or maintained;

(6) recommend policies and strategies for resource management that consider and detail the application of appropriate land and water management techniques including, but not limited to, the development of intergovernmental and interagency cooperative agreements to protect the Heritage Area's natural, historical, cultural, educational, scenic and recreational resources;

(7) describe a program of implementation for the management plan including plans for resource protection, restoration, construction, and specific commitments for implementation that have been made by the management entity or any government, organization, or individual for the first 5 years of implementation;

(8) include an analysis and recommendations for ways in which local, State, and Federal programs, including the role of the National Park Service in the Heritage Area, may best be coordinated to further the purposes of this Act; and

(9) include an interpretive plan for the Heritage Area.

(b) DEADLINE AND TERMINATION OF FUNDING.—

(1) DEADLINE.—The management entity shall submit the management plan to the Secretary for approval within 3 years after funds are made available for this Act.

(2) TERMINATION OF FUNDING.—If the management plan is not submitted to the Secretary in accordance with this subsection, the management entity shall not qualify for Federal funding under this Act until such time as the management plan is submitted to and approved by the Secretary.

SEC. 7. DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES OF THE SECRETARY.

(a) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, upon the request of the management entity, provide technical assistance on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis and financial assistance to the Heritage Area to develop and implement the approved management plan. The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the management entity and other public or private entities for this purpose. In assisting the Heritage Area, the Secretary shall give priority to actions that in general assist in—

(A) conserving the significant natural, historical, cultural, and scenic resources of the Heritage Area; and

(B) providing educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities consistent with the purposes of the Heritage Area.

(2) SPENDING FOR NON-FEDERALLY OWNED PROPERTY.—The Secretary may spend Federal funds directly on non-federally owned property to further the purposes of this Act, especially in assisting units of government in appropriate treatment of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

(b) APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL OF MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall approve or disapprove the management plan not later than 90 days after receiving the management plan.

(2) CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL.—In determining the approval of the management plan, the Secretary shall consider whether—

(A) the management entity is representative of the diverse interests of the Heritage Area including governments, natural and historic resource protection organizations, educational institutions, businesses, and recreational organizations;

(B) the management entity has afforded adequate opportunity, including public hearings, for public and governmental involvement in the preparation of the management plan;

(C) the resource protection and interpretation strategies contained in the management plan, if implemented, would adequately protect the natural, historical, and cultural resources of the Heritage Area; and

(D) the Secretary has received adequate assurances from the appropriate State and local officials whose support is needed to ensure the effective implementation of the State and local aspects of the management plan.

(3) ACTION FOLLOWING DISAPPROVAL.—If the Secretary disapproves the management plan, the Secretary shall advise the management entity in writing of the reasons therefore and shall make recommendations for revisions to the management plan. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove a proposed revision within 60 days after the date it is submitted.

(4) APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS.—Substantial amendments to the management plan shall be reviewed by the Secretary and approved in the same manner as provided for the original management plan. The management entity shall not use Federal funds authorized by this Act to implement any amendments until the Secretary has approved the amendments.

SEC. 8. DUTIES OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.

Any Federal agency conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the Heritage Area shall—

(1) consult with the Secretary and the management entity with respect to such activities;

(2) cooperate with the Secretary and the management entity in carrying out their duties under this Act and, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate such activities with the carrying out of such duties; and,

(3) to the maximum extent practicable, conduct or support such activities in a manner which the management entity determines will not have an adverse effect on the Heritage Area.

SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of this Act not more than $1,000,000 for any fiscal year. Not more than a total of $10,000,000 may be appropriated for the Heritage Area under this Act.

(b) MATCHING FUNDS.—Federal funding provided under this Act may not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of any assistance or grant provided or authorized under this Act.

SEC. 10. SUNSET.

The authority of the Secretary to provide assistance under this Act shall terminate on the day occurring 15 years after the date of enactment of the Act.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 1057. A bill to modify the calculation of back pay for persons who were approved for promotion as members of the Navy and Marine Corps while interned as prisoners of war during World War II to take into account changes in the Consumer Price Index; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am proud to sponsor the World War II POW Pay Equity Act of 2003. In 2000, we passed legislation intended to correct an injustice of not paying Navy and Marine Corps POWs for promotions while they were interned during World War II. Unfortunately, this legislation omitted an adjustment for inflation. The result was that these heroes were paying in 1942 dollars, roughly equating to ten cents on the current dollar. It is well past time to properly compensate them for their dedicated service. This bill ensures these former WWII POW, or their surviving spouses, would receive the appropriate back pay adjusted for inflation for their military service.

Many of these WWII veterans need our help, not only to fix a discriminatory act upon Navy and Marine Corps POWs, but financially as well, since many suffer from extreme financial distress. The total number of surviving WWII POWs is now less than 1,000 and approximately 400 spouses. We can not abandon the ''greatest generation'' who are responsible for the successes and riches we currently enjoy in this great country. It would be shameful for Congress and our Nation not to compensate these veterans appropriately, as this is a debt that our country incurred during their internment of POWs.

Make no mistake,this is a readiness issue, as well. Today's service members are acutely aware of retirees' disenfranchisement from delinquent policies enacted over the years, and exit surveys cite this issue with increasing frequency as one of the factors in members' decisions to leave service. In fact, a recent GAO study found that ''inadequate military retirement benefits'' was a significant source of dissatisfaction among active duty officers in retention-critical specialties.

I would like to emphasize that this year's defense authorization bill contains over $1 billion in pork—unrequested add-ons to the defense budget that deprive our military of vital funding for priority issues. With the amount of unrequested spending attached to the defense authorization bill, we could certainly find the funding for this legislation. We must fulfill our commitment to a group who we collectively owe our full support, admiration, and gratitude.

I request unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

S. 1057

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MODIFICATION OF AMOUNT OF BACK PAY FOR MEMBERS OF NAVY AND MARINE CORPS SELECTED FOR PROMOTION WHILE INTERNED AS PRISONERS OF WAR DURING WORLD WAR II TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX.

(a) MODIFICATION.—Section 667(c) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (as enacted into law by Public Law 106–398; 114 Stat. 1654A–170) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) The amount determined for a person under paragraph (1) shall be increased to reflect increases in cost of living since the basic pay referred to in paragraph (1)(B) was paid to or for that person, calculated on the basis of the Consumer Price Index (all items—United States city average) published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.''.

(b) RECALCULATION OF PREVIOUS PAYMENTS.—In the case of any payment of back pay made to or for a person under section 667 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall—

(1) recalculate the amount of back pay to which the person is entitled by reason of the amendment made by subsection (a); and

(2) if the amount of back pay, as so recalculated, exceeds the amount of back pay so paid, pay the person, or the surviving spouse of the person, an amount equal to the excess.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. CAMPBELL):

S. 1058. A bill to provide a cost-sharing requirement for the construction of the Arkansas Valley Conduit in the State of Colorado; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, an historian and poet once penned that the history of Colorado would be written in water. In the midst of Colorado's worst drought in 300 years, this prediction has proven an accurate account of life in the headwater State and has proven a strong reminder that water is indeed our most precious natural resource. Yet in Southeastern Colorado, home of the Arkansas River, finding clean, inexpensive water, can be difficult. That is why today I am introducing legislation that will ensure the expedited construction of the Arkansas Valley Conduit—a pipeline that will provide the small, financially strapped towns and water agencies along the Arkansas River with safe, clean, affordable water. By creating a Federal/Local cost share formula to help offset the costs of constructing the Conduit, this legislation will protect the future of Southeastern Colorado.

By way of background, the Arkansas Valley Conduit was originally authorized by Congress forty years ago as a part of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. Due to the authorizing statute's lack of a cost share provision and Southeastern Colorado's depressed economic status, the Conduit was never built. Until recently, the region has been fortunate to enjoy an economical and safe alternative to pipeline-transportation of Project Water: the Arkansas River. Sadly, the water quality in the Arkansas has degraded to a point where it is no longer economical to use as a means of transport. At the same time, the Federal government has continued to strengthen its unfunded water quality standards.

In order to comply with these standards, the region's municipalities have begun exploring options for water treatment, some of which are estimated to cost between $20 million and $40 million. Taken together, the municipalities alone are facing potential expenditures of up to $640 million simply to comply with federally mandated water quality standards. Construction of over a half a billion dollars worth of water treatment facilities is simply not a feasible alternative for the financially strapped farming communities along the Arkansas River. With the Conduit, the communities will not need to build new water treatment facilities.

In an effort to resurrect the Conduit, last year, Senator BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL and I, worked to secure $200,000 for a Bureau of Reclamation Re-evaluation Statement on the project. Thanks to this effort, the people of the valley are beginning to realize that the Conduit is much more than just a pipedream, and that Congress is serious about fulfilling the promise of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project.

According to the draft feasibility study, the Conduit is estimated to cost $200 million. My legislation calls for a 75/25 Federal/Local cost share, meaning that the local communities will be required to come up with at least $50 million to pay for their share. This is a sizeable sum, but is a far cry from the $640 million it would cost to build the new treatment facilities that would be required if the Conduit is not built. This will leave $150 million for the Federal government's share. However, I would like to point out that this $150 million undoubtedly would be exceeded if the communities were forced to seek Federal grants to help build new treatment plants.

The Arkansas Valley Conduit will deliver fresh, clean water to dozens of valley communities and thousands of people along the river. The local sponsors of the project have initiated and are nearing the completion of an independently funded feasibility study of the Conduit, and have developed a coalition of support from water users in Southeastern Colorado. They continue to explore options for financing their share of the costs, and are working hard to develop the organization that will oversee the Conduit project.

With the help of my colleagues, the promise made by Congress forty years ago to the people of Southeastern Colorado, will finally become a reality.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the legislation be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1058

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT FOR THE ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT IN THE STATE OF COLORADO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7 of Public Law 87–590 (76 Stat. 393) is amended—

(1) by striking ''SEC. 7.'' and inserting the following: ''**SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**'';

(2) in the first sentence, by striking ''There is hereby authorized'' and inserting the following:

''(a) CONSTRUCTION.—There is authorized'';

(3) in the second sentence, by striking ''There are also'' and inserting the following:

''(b) OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.—There are''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to pay the Federal share of the costs of constructing the Arkansas Valley Conduit in accordance with subsection (a) of the first section, which Federal share shall be nonreimbursable.

''(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of the total costs of construction (including design and engineering costs) of the Arkansas Valley Conduit shall be not more than 25 percent.

''(B) FORM.—Up to 100 percent of the non-Federal share may be in the form of in-kind contributions.''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) apply to any costs of constructing the Arkansas Valley Conduit incurred during fiscal year 2002 or any subsequent fiscal year.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 1059. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the tax rate for political organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce a bill to correct an inequity in our tax code.

Currently, we use inconsistent standards to tax different types of political campaign committees. Congressional campaigns are taxed at the applicable corporate rates: depending on how much taxable income a campaign generates, it will be taxed at rates that vary from 15 percent to 35 percent. However, all other campaigns must pay the highest corporate rate of 35 percent. This is unfair.

It's wrong to tax some campaigns at rates that change according to income level and then arbitrarily charge others at the highest possible rate. This disparity particularly hurts local and State candidates who generally have relatively low levels of taxable income but have to pay the same 35 percent rate as campaigns that may generate more than $10 million in taxable income.

The bill I am introducing today will eliminate this inequity by taxing all campaign committees at the corporate rate based on their level of income. No longer will congressional campaigns be allowed to receive preferred tax treatment. All campaigns will be treated the same.

I hope my colleagues will support this effort to improve the fairness of the tax code.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1059

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TAX RATE FOR POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 527(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to tax imposed) is amended by striking ''highest rate'' and inserting ''appropriate rates''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (h) of section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to special rule for principal campaign committees) is repealed.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2002.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. PRYOR, MR. REID, MR. CHAMBLISS, Mr. MILLER, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. GRAHAM of Florida):

S. 1061. A bill to authorize 36 additional bankruptcy judgeships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2003, along with over a dozen Senators of both parties who are joining me on this legislation. This bill creates new temporary and permanent bankruptcy judgeships in districts that need them, and extends and converts other temporary judgeships.

The substantial increase in bankruptcy case filings in recent years has created a dire need for additional bankruptcy judgeships. My bill would create 23 new permanent bankruptcy judgeships, 5 temporary judgeships, convert 2 temporary judgeships to permanent status and extend 2 other temporary judgeships. 17 States would receive new judgeships, as recommended by the Administrative Office for United States Courts.

Among other things, the bill authorizes four new bankruptcy judgeships, and converts one from temporary to permanent status, for the District of Delaware, the Nation's most overloaded bankruptcy district. The most recent data show weighted filings for the district of Delaware surpassing 13,500 per judge, while the next busiest district faces only about 3,000.

The bankruptcy bar in Delaware is among the most respected and accomplished in the country, as are our bankruptcy judges. But our judges are not superhuman. They must receive the assistance that this bill would grant them, and I intend to see that they get it.

The Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2003 is long overdue and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1061

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2003''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS.

The following judgeship positions shall be filled in the manner prescribed in section 152(a)(1) of title 28, United States Code, for the appointment of bankruptcy judges provided for in section 152(a)(2) of such title:

(1) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the southern district of New York.

(2) Four additional bankruptcy judgeships for the district of Delaware.

(3) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the district of New Jersey.

(4) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the eastern district of Pennsylvania.

(5) Three additional bankruptcy judgeships for the district of Maryland.

(6) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the eastern district of North Carolina.

(7) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the district of South Carolina.

(8) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the eastern district of Virginia.

(9) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the eastern district of Michigan.

(10) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the western district of Tennessee.

(11) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the eastern and western districts of Arkansas.

(12) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the district of Nevada.

(13) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the district of Utah.

(14) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the middle district of Florida.

(15) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the southern district of Florida.

(16) Two additional bankruptcy judgeships for the northern district of Georgia.

(17) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the southern district of Georgia.

SEC. 3. TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS.—The following judgeship positions shall be filled in the manner prescribed in section 152(a)(1) of title 28, United States Code, for the appointment of bankruptcy judges provided for in section 152(a)(2) of such title:

(1) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the district of Puerto Rico.

(2) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the northern district of New York.

(3) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the middle district of Pennsylvania.

(4) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the district of Maryland.

(5) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the northern district of Mississippi.

(6) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the southern district of Mississippi.

(7) One additional bankruptcy judgeship for the southern district of Georgia.

(b) VACANCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The first vacancy occurring in the office of bankruptcy judge in each of the judicial districts set forth in subsection (a)—

(A) occurring 5 years or more after the appointment date of the bankruptcy judge appointed under subsection (a) to such office; and

(B) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge;

shall not be filled.

(2) TERM EXPIRATION.—In the case of a vacancy resulting from the expiration of the term of a bankruptcy judge not described in paragraph (1), that judge shall be eligible for reappointment as a bankruptcy judge in that district.

(c) EXTENSION OF EXISTING TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The temporary bankruptcy judgeships authorized for the northern district of Alabama and the eastern district of Tennessee under paragraphs (1) and (9) of section 3(a) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) are extended until the first vacancy occurring in the office of a bankruptcy judge in the applicable district resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge and occurring 5 years or more after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—All other provisions of section 3 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary bankruptcy judgeships referred to in this subsection.

SEC. 4. TRANSFER OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP SHARED BY THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA.

The bankruptcy judgeship presently shared by the southern district of Georgia and the middle district of Georgia shall be converted to a bankruptcy judgeship for the middle district of Georgia.

SEC. 5. CONVERSION OF EXISTING TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS.

(a) DISTRICT OF DELAWARE.—The temporary bankruptcy judgeship authorized for the district of Delaware pursuant to section 3 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), shall be converted to a permanent bankruptcy judgeship.

(b) DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO.—The temporary bankruptcy judgeship authorized for the district of Puerto Rico pursuant to section 3 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), shall be converted to a permanent bankruptcy judgeship.

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Section 152(a)(2) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the item relating to the eastern and western districts of Arkansas, by striking ''3'' and inserting ''4'';

(2) in the item relating to the district of Delaware, by striking ''1'' and inserting ''6'';

(3) in the item relating to the middle district of Florida, by striking ''8'' and inserting ''10'';

(4) in the item relating to the southern district of Florida, by striking ''5'' and inserting ''7'';

(5) in the item relating to the northern district of Georgia, by striking ''8'' and inserting ''10'';

(6) in the item relating to the middle district of Georgia, by striking ''2'' and inserting ''3'';

(7) in the item relating to the southern district of Georgia, by striking ''2'' and inserting ''3'';

(8) in the collective item relating to the middle and southern districts of Georgia, by striking ''Middle and Southern . . . . . 1'';

(9) in the item relating to the district of Maryland, by striking ''4'' and inserting ''7'';

(10) in the item relating to the eastern district of Michigan, by striking ''4'' and inserting ''6'';

(11) in the item relating to the district of Nevada, by striking ''3'' and inserting 5'';

(12) in the item relating to the district of New Jersey, by striking ''8'' and inserting ''9'';

(13) in the item relating to the southern district of New York, by striking ''9'' and inserting ''11'';

(14) in the item relating to the eastern district of North Carolina, by striking ''2'' and inserting ''3'';

(15) in the item relating to the eastern district of Pennsylvania, by striking ''5'' and inserting ''6'';

(16) in the item relating to the district of Puerto Rico, by striking ''2 and inserting ''3'';

(17) in the item relating to the district of South Carolina, by striking ''2'' and inserting ''3'';

(18) in the item relating to the western district of Tennessee, by striking ''4'' and inserting ''6'';

(19) in the item relating to the district of Utah, by striking ''3'' and inserting ''4''; and

(20) in the item relating to the eastern district of Virginia, by striking ''5'' and inserting ''6''.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of legislation to provide more bankruptcy judges for several States, including four additional bankruptcy judgeships for my own State of Maryland. This legislation is being introduced today by Senator BIDEN, and is being cosponsored by myself and Senators CARPER, NELSON of Florida, CLINTON, EDWARDS, GRAHAM of South Carolina, HOLLINGS, LEVIN, PRYOR, REID, CHAMBLISS, MILLER, ALEXANDER and GRAHAM of Florida.

This bill is another significant step forward in our efforts to strengthen Maryland's Federal bankruptcy court. We have been working for several years to get these additional judgeships approved, yet no legislation has been passed that would authorize them. With such inaction, the burden facing Maryland's sitting bankruptcy judges has grown, and Maryland has remained without the additional judgeships it so desperately needs to make our bankruptcy system work.

Maryland's four sitting bankruptcy judges continue to show remarkable dedication given the extraordinary burdens placed upon them. However, additional judgeships remain essential to the fair and timely administration of the Bankruptcy Code for all of the businesses and individuals that come before the Maryland District.

Since 1992, we have been requesting additional judgeships for the District of Maryland; thus far none have been approved. In 1992, there were approximately 15,000 bankruptcy filings in the District of Maryland. From 1998 to 2002, there were over 30,000 bankruptcy filings per year in Maryland. In the past few years the number of new filings per year has been closer to 35,000, and in 2002 there were 35,900 new cases. The caseload has more than doubled in the past ten years, and the Court still does its work with only four bankruptcy judges. This dire need for additional judgeships in Maryland has yet to be remedied by the Congress.

This legislation provides four additional judgeships for Maryland, in accordance with a September 2002 recommendation from the United States Judicial Conference. These four additional judgeships would help reduce the overwhelming workload of the four sitting bankruptcy judges. As of June 30, 2002, the national weighted filing average for bankruptcy judges was 1,641. The weighted filing per judge for Maryland's four bankruptcy judges was 3,030—almost twice the national average.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which would provide much needed help on the bankruptcy courts in Maryland and across the Nation.

By Mr. CAMPBELL.:

S. 1062. A bill to amend section 924 of title 18, United States Code, to increase the maximum term of imprisonment for offenses involving stolen firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, this week, May 11 through 17, is ''National Police Week 2003.''

This is the week when thousands of law enforcement officers from all over the United States gather here in our Nation's Capital. Representing a full spectrum of our Nation's law enforcement personnel including local, State, and Federal officers, they gather here to honor their fallen comrades, as well as to celebrate all who serve this country and its citizens. Some of this year's highlights include the May 11 ''Law Ride,'' the May 13 ''Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial'' and the May 15 ''National Peace Officers' Memorial Day Service'' which will be held on the Capitol grounds. These events are being held to specifically pay tribute to the more than 145 peace officers who were killed in the line of duty across the U.S. during 2002.

In honor of ''National Police Week,'' today I am introducing two bills that will help improve our Nation's justice system and protect the law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line for us all on a daily basis.

The first bill I am introducing is the ''Stolen Gun Penalty Enhancement Act of 2003'' which would increase the maximum prison sentences for violating existing stolen gun laws.

A growing number of crimes in our country are being committed with stolen guns. The extent of this problem is reflected in a number of recent studies and news reports which indicate that almost half a million guns are stolen each year.

This problem is increasing, and is therefore especially alarming among young people. A Justice Department study of juvenile inmates in four States showed that over 50 percent of the inmates in those prison systems had stolen a gun. In the same study, gang members and drug sellers were also more likely to have stolen a gun.

Specifically, this bill would increase the maximum penalty for violating four provisions of the firearms laws. Under title 18 of the U.S. Code, it is illegal to knowingly transport or ship a stolen firearm or stolen ammunition. It is also illegal to knowingly receive, possess, conceal, store, sell, or otherwise dispose of a stolen firearm or stolen ammunition. The penalty for violating either of these provisions is a fine, a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years, or both.

My bill increases the maximum prison sentence to 15 years.

I am a strong supporter of the rights of law-abiding gun owners. However, I firmly believe we need tougher penalties for the illegal use of firearms.

The ''Stolen Gun Penalty Enhancement Act of 2003'' will send a strong signal to criminals who are even thinking about stealing a firearm. I urge my colleagues to join in support of this legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the Stolen Gun Penalty Enhancement Act of 2003 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1062

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Stolen Gun Penalty Enhancement Act of 2003''.

SEC. 2. STOLEN FIREARMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 924 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(i), (j),''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) Whoever knowingly violates subsection (i) or (j) of section 922 shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both.'';

(2) in subsection (i)(1), by striking ''10 years'' and inserting ''15 years''; and

(3) in subsection (*l*), by striking ''10 years'' and inserting ''15 years''.

(b) SENTENCING COMMISSION.—The United States Sentencing Commission shall amend the Federal sentencing guidelines to reflect the amendments made under subsection (a).

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 1065. A bill to establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase bullet-resistant equipment for use by law enforcement departments; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, the second bill I am introducing today is the ''Officer Dale Claxton Bullet Resistant Police Protective Equipment Act of 2003''.

This bill is named in honor of Officer Dale Claxton of Cortez, CO, a fine law enforcement officer and family man, who was fatally shot through the windshield of his patrol car on May 29, 1998, after stopping a stolen truck. His assailants turned out to be dangerous fugitives and as a result, a large-scale man hunt was launched. The assailants were brought to justice, but Officer Claxton was tragically and prematurely taken away from his wife and four children.

''The Officer Dale Claxton Bullet Resistant Police Protective Equipment Act'' would aid law enforcement agencies in acquiring bullet resistant equipment for their forces, including bullet

resistant glass for law enforcement vehicles, hand-held shields and any other equipment that officers may need when they serve on the front lines of law enforcement. Specifically, this legislation would help our Nation's State and local law enforcement officers acquire the bullet resistant equipment they need in order to protect themselves from would-be killers. This legislation would authorize the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance to administer a $40 million matching grant program to assist these agencies purchase bullet resistant equipment.

This legislation is a worthy companion, and similar in many ways, to S.764, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act, which I recently introduced for reauthorization. Like S. 764, today's bill would help State and local law enforcement agencies acquire bullet resistant equipment—however this bill would simply provide for a wider array of bullet resistant equipment to supplement bullet proof vests.

As a former deputy sheriff, I am personally aware of the dangers which law enforcement officers face on the front lines every day. One way in which the Federal Government can improve their safety is to help them acquire bullet resistant glass and other equipment for patrol cars. These partnership grants are especially crucial for officers who serve in small, local jurisdictions that often lack the funds to provide their officers with the life saving equipment they may need.

The second component of this legislation would launch expedited and targeted research and development by authorizing $3 million over 3 years for the Justice Department's National Institute of Justice, NIJ, to conduct research and development of new bullet resistant technologies, such as bonded acrylic, polymers, polycarbons, aluminized material, and transparent ceramics.

Promising new bullet resistant materials now being developed could be as revolutionary in coming years as the development of Kevlar was in the 1970s for the manufacture of body armor. These exciting new technologies promise to be lighter, more versatile and hopefully less expensive than traditional heavy bulletproof glass.

Our Nation's police officers, sheriffs and deputies regularly put their lives in harm's way as they protect the people and preserve the peace. They deserve to have access to the bullet resistant equipment they need. The Officer Dale Claxton Bullet Resistant Police Protective Equipment Act will both accelerate the development of new lifesaving bullet resistant technologies and then help get them deployed into the field where they are needed. Officers lives will be saved.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of Officer Dale Claxton Bullet Resistant Police Protective Equipment Act of 2003 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1065

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Officer Dale Claxton Bulletproof Police Protective Equipment Act of 2003''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Officer Dale Claxton of the Cortez, Colorado, Police Department was shot and killed by bullets that passed through the windshield of his police car after he stopped a stolen truck, and his life may have been saved if his police car had been equipped with bullet-resistant equipment;

(2) the number of law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty would significantly decrease if every law enforcement officer in the United States had access to additional bullet-resistant equipment;

(3) according to studies, between 1990 and 2000, 1,700 law enforcement officers in the United States were shot and killed in the line of duty;

(4) the Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates that the risk of fatality to law enforcement officers while not wearing bullet-resistant equipment, such as an armor vest, is 14 times higher than for officers wearing an armor vest; and

(5) the Executive Committee for Indian Country Law Enforcement Improvements reports that violent crime in Indian country has risen sharply despite a decrease in the national crime rate, and has concluded that there is a ''public safety crisis in Indian country''.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to save lives of law enforcement officers by helping State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies provide officers with bullet-resistant equipment and video cameras.

SEC. 3. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT BULLET-RESISTANT EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part Y of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 is amended—

(1) by striking the part designation and part heading and inserting the following:

''PART Y—MATCHING GRANT PROGRAMS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

''Subpart A—Grant Program for Armor Vests'';

(2) by striking ''this part'' each place that term appears and inserting ''this subpart''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''Subpart B—Grant Program for Bullet-Resistant Equipment

''SEC. 2511. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance is authorized to make grants to States, units of local government, and Indian tribes to purchase bullet-resistant equipment for use by State, local, and tribal law enforcement officers.

''(b) USES OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this section shall be—

''(1) distributed directly to the State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe; and

''(2) used for the purchase of bullet-resistant equipment for law enforcement officers in the jurisdiction of the grantee.

''(c) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—In awarding grants under this subpart, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance may give preferential consideration, if feasible, to an application from a jurisdiction that—

''(1) has the greatest need for bullet-resistant equipment based on the percentage of law enforcement officers in the department who do not have access to a vest;

''(2) has a violent crime rate at or above the national average as determined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

''(3) has not received a block grant under the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program described under the heading 'State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance' of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–553).

''(d) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Unless all eligible applications submitted by any State or unit of local government within such State for a grant under this section have been funded, such State, together with grantees within the State (other than Indian tribes), shall be allocated in each fiscal year under this section not less than 0.50 percent of the total amount appropriated in the fiscal year for grants pursuant to this section except that the United States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands shall each be allocated 0.25 percent.

''(e) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A qualifying State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe may not receive more than 5 percent of the total amount appropriated in each fiscal year for grants under this section, except that a State, together with the grantees within the State may not receive more than 20 percent of the total amount appropriated in each fiscal year for grants under this section.

''(f) MATCHING FUNDS.—The portion of the costs of a program provided by a grant under subsection (a) may not exceed 50 percent. Any funds appropriated by Congress for the activities of any agency of an Indian tribal government or the Bureau of Indian Affairs performing law enforcement functions on any Indian lands may be used to provide the non-Federal share of a matching requirement funded under this subsection.

''(g) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—At least half of the funds available under this subpart shall be awarded to units of local government with fewer than 100,000 residents.

''SEC. 2512. APPLICATIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—To request a grant under this subpart, the chief executive of a State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe shall submit an application to the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance in such form and containing such information as the Director may reasonably require.

''(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subpart, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall promulgate regulations to implement this section (including the information that must be included and the requirements that the States, units of local government, and Indian tribes must meet) in submitting the applications required under this section.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A unit of local government that receives funding under the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program, described under the heading 'State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance' of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–553), during a fiscal year in which it submits an application under this subpart shall not be eligible for a grant under this subpart unless the chief executive officer of such unit of local government certifies and provides an explanation to the Director that the unit of local government considered or will consider using funding received under the block grant program for any or all of the costs relating to the purchase of bullet-resistant equipment, but did not, or does not expect to use such funds for such purpose.

''SEC. 2513. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subpart—

''(1) the term 'equipment' means windshield glass, car panels, shields, and protective gear;

''(2) the term 'State' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands;

''(3) the term 'unit of local government' means a county, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level;

''(4) the term 'Indian tribe' has the same meaning as in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)); and

''(5) the term 'law enforcement officer' means any officer, agent, or employee of a State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe authorized by law or by a government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, or investigation of any violation of criminal law, or authorized by law to supervise sentenced criminal offenders.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1001(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (23) and inserting the following:

''(23) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part Y—

''(A) $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2006 for grants under subpart A of that part; and

''(B) $40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2006 for grants under subpart B of that part.''.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

In the case of any equipment or products that may be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance provided using funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, it is the sense of Congress that entities receiving the assistance should, in expending the assistance, purchase only American-made equipment and products.

SEC. 5. TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.

Section 202 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3722) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) BULLET-RESISTANT TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Institute is authorized to—

''(A) conduct research and otherwise work to develop new bullet-resistant technologies (i.e., acrylic, polymers, aluminized material, and transparent ceramics) for use in police equipment (including windshield glass, car panels, shields, and protective gear);

''(B) inventory bullet-resistant technologies used in the private sector, in surplus military property, and by foreign countries; and

''(C) promulgate relevant standards for, and conduct technical and operational testing and evaluation of, bullet-resistant technology and equipment, and otherwise facilitate the use of that technology in police equipment.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out this subsection, the Institute shall give priority in testing and engineering surveys to law enforcement partnerships developed in coordination with high-intensity drug trafficking areas.

''(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $3,000,000 for fiscal years 2004 through 2006.''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 143—REMEMBERING AND HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE BUS CRASH NEAR CARROLLTON, KENTUCKY, FIFTEEN YEARS AGO ON MAY 4, 1988

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. DEWINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 143

Whereas a school bus full of children, teens and chaperones was traveling down Interstate 71 to Radcliff, Kentucky, following a church outing at a Cincinnati, Ohio amusement park;

Whereas a drunk driver, with blood alcohol concentration levels at .24 percent, much higher than the legal limit, was traveling northbound in the southbound lanes of Interstate 71 in his pickup truck;

Whereas the National Transportation Safety Board found the drunk driver slammed into the bus head on, causing a collision sequence which resulted in the bus bursting into flames;

Whereas, twenty-four children and three adults perished in this tragedy;

Whereas, thirty-four other people suffered injuries, some critical, in the crash and resulting fire;

Whereas, the pickup driver was found to be a repeat drunk-driving offender and substantially over the legal blood alcohol concentration limit to operate a vehicle;

Whereas the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has found that alcohol-related traffic deaths have increased for the third consecutive year in a row;

Whereas the strength and determination of the survivors and of the relatives of the victims to this crash serve as an inspiration for all Americans: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That on this day, May 14, 2003, the United States Senate remembers and honors the victims and their families on this 15th anniversary of the deadliest drunk driving crash in United States history.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, fifteen years ago today, the most deadly drunk driving accident in our Nation's history occurred. It happened at about 10:55 p.m. EST, when a school bus full of teens and chaperones traveled down Interstate 71 to Radcliff, KY, on the way home from a church outing at a Cincinnati, OH amusement park. At this time, a repeat drunk driving offender with a blood alcohol concentration, BAC, of .24 headed the wrong way down Interstate 71 and slammed his pick-up truck into the bus. In just a few horrific moments, 27 people—mostly children—were killed; another 34 were injured.

Today, I was honored to stand with three brave people whose lives were changed forever by this reckless tragedy: Karolyn Nunnallee, Janey Fair, and Harold Dennis. Karolyn lost her 10-year old daughter, Patty, and Janey lost her 14-year old daughter, Shannon. Harold was riding on the bus on that fateful day. Their perseverance should be a lesson for us all, as we continue to fight the social epidemic of drunk driving.

Today we must remember the victims and survivors of that terrible tragedy and sadly commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Kentucky bus crash. It is in their memory that I, along with my colleague Senator MIKE DEWINE, submit this resolution.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 44—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS TO OUR NATION

S. CON. RES. 44

Whereas at the direction of Congress in 1978, the President proclaimed the week beginning May 4, 1979, as Asian Pacific American Heritage Week, providing the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, history, and concerns of Asian Pacific Americans;

Whereas the seven day period starting May 4 was designated Asian Pacific Heritage Week as it marks two historical dates—May 7, 1843, when the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States, and May 10, 1869, Golden Spike Day, when, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants, the first transcontinental railroad was completed;

Whereas the 102nd Congress by law designated that the month of May be annually observed as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month;

Whereas according to the U.S. Census Bureau an estimated 12.5 million United States residents trace their ethnic heritage, in full or in part, to Asia and the Pacific Islands;

Whereas Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders can list innovative contributions to all aspects of life in the United States ranging from the first transcontinental railroad to the Internet;

Whereas in the mid-1700's Filipino sailors formed the first Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the bayous of Louisiana;

Whereas Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have added to the vast cultural wealth of our Nation; and

Whereas Americans of Asian Pacific heritage, who include immigrant and indigenous populations, have honorably served to defend the United States in times of armed conflict from the Civil War to the present: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes that the United States draws its strength from its diversity, including contributions made by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders;

(2) recognizes that the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is a thriving and integral part of American society and culture;

(3) supports the goals of Asian Pacific Heritage Month; and

(4) recognizes the prodigious contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the United States.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to recognize our country's diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander, AAPI, population and commemorate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I add my voice to those in the AAPI community recognizing and celebrating the unique contributions of this diverse community by submitting a resolution similar to that submitted in the other body by fellow members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

It was more than 10 years ago when my friend and former colleague, Congressman Frank Horton of New York,